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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 21 | Humidity 69% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 79,705 | Nifty 24,367 | Gold 69,850 | Silver 80,510 | Dollar 83.95 | Euro 91.73 | GBP 106.89

CLASS ACTION

Department of Horticulture to launch initiative to provide practical training to government school students on hydroponics

PAGE 2

LAX RULES

Whitefield residents say govt's new rules for paying guest accommodations leave lot to be desired, such as fire safety norms

PAGE 5

As passengers struggle to wait for their ride in rain and shine, with no place to sit or rest, city's bus shelters are reduced to symbols of neglect

TRANSIT PAIN POINT

Sheer volume of people waiting to take public transport further worsens condition

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BANGALORE MIRROR TEST DRIVE

As it is raining in Bengaluru, the importance of bus shelters has become more pronounced for those waiting to board buses. But sadly, most bus shelters are just shelters in name as they have neither a proper roof nor any seating arrangements. A test drive by Bangalore MIrror revealed that many bus shelters in the city have become symbols of neglect. Bus passengers brave the sun and rain as they carry on their wait.

Imagine standing at a bus stop with no shelter from the pouring rain or the scorching sun. That's the daily reality for commuters at the Tin Factory bus stand. "Without a roof, the bus stand offers no protection from the weather, turning what should be a routine wait for a bus into a miserable experience. It's like the civic agency is promoting a rain dance at the bus stand. The comparison may be humorous, but the reality is far from it. The lack of a roof leaves people drenched during the rainy season and scorched under the summer sun, making the wait for a bus an ordeal rather than a simple task," said Vinod Raj, a regular commuter at Tin factory.

> **"During the monsoon, the entire area becomes slippery. People have slipped and fallen because there's no proper shelter or seating. It feels like the authorities don't care about our safety or comfort**
> —Navya Reddy, college student

Adding to the woes is the overcrowded condition of the bus stand, where the aisles are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Who'll address the elephant in the room?

State to host global conference today, but High Court-appointed committee's recommendations for elephant camps yet to be followed 4 years on

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The State Forest Department is set to organise an international conference on human-elephant conflict management on the occasion of World Elephant Day on Monday. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is expected to inaugurate the conference while Karnataka Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre and dignitaries will attend it. However, animal activists and environmentalists are not happy with the inordinate delay and negligence of the state government in implementing the recommendations made by an expert committee appointed by Karnataka High Court for the evaluation of elephant camps in Karnataka four years ago.

The High Court had appointed the committee while hearing a writ petition by Amrutesh NP, an advocate of High Court, against the state government. The three-member committee – KM Chinnappa, chairman, Dr Kalaivanan, member, and Dr NKV Ashraf, member – visited the six elephant camps such as Mathigodu, Cauvery, Dubare, Balle, Rampur, and Sakrebyle for four days from October 16 to 19, 2019.

The three-member committee evaluated the quality of every camp based on seven key aspects such as location, water body, facilities, health management, husbandry

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Food festival

Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror along with Vega City Mall create a delightful food festival for the residents of Bangalore to experience the taste of VV Puram Food Street. All foodies are invited to come and enjoy mouth-watering delicacies.
Where: Where: Vega City Mall, BTM Layout
When: August 15 to 18, 11am to 10pm

02 Visual treat

Mystic India Collection by Resham Sahi unfolds as a sensory feast, where each piece is a symphony of vivid hues and varied mediums. From the delicate precision of ink to the lush textures of oils and the vibrant layers of acrylics, Sahi's artistic journey echoes the words of Jackson Pollock: 'Painting is self-discovery. Every good artist paints what he is.' Her canvases transcend categorisation, reflecting an uninhibited spirit that paints with the raw emotion of the heart rather than the constraints of convention.
Where: Bangalore International Centre, Art Gallery
When: August 12, 11am to 6pm

03 BTS Night: Jungkook Birthday Edition

This is for the Army. Get ready for an unforgettable night at the first-ever BTS Night - Jungkook Birthday Edition in India. Join us for an evening filled with music, fun, and excitement. Dance to the greatest BTS hits and witness performances by various dance groups. Test your knowledge at Trivia game and win exciting prizes. Capture memories in a themed photo areas and look elegant in every stroke at our special face painting stall
Where: Foxtrot, Marathahalli
When: August 31, 4pm

Rejoicing freedom

Vendors selling the Tricolour, ahead of Independence Day, in front of the Vidhana Soudha on Sunday

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Govt school students to get hydroponics training

'Horticulture for Students' programme launched in 13 districts across State

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For the first time in the state, the Department of Horticulture is launching an initiative to provide practical training to government school students on hydroponics (aquaculture). With guidance from the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), the 'Horticulture for Students' programme will be implemented in 13 districts, reaching 19,000 students. This programme aims to ignite interest in agriculture, horticulture, and plant research among students by introducing them to methods of growing crops without soil, scientific beekeeping, and creating nutrient-rich kitchen gardens.

An official said, "The programme is set to launch statewide in October, with the Department of Education coordinating the selection of students from each district. Initially, 100 students will be chosen for a one-day training session at IIHR or a local agricultural science center. In cases where a research institution is unavailable or transportation is challenging, schools will conduct their own practical training sessions. Each participating student will receive a seed kit, macro bag, and biomix worth Rs 250 for their training. After completing the training, students will apply their knowledge in their schools or homes and submit a report detailing how they utilise the nutrients they grow daily. District-level officials are responsible for compiling these reports. This initiative is expected to foster a deep interest in horticulture among government school children from an early age."

'Horticulture for Students' program will benefit children from government and aided schools in districts including Bengaluru Urban, Mandya, Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Bidar, Chitradurga, Uttara Kannada, Bagalkot, Haveri, Ramanagara, Koppal, Vijayanagara, and Udupi districts. The programme includes a morning technical session followed by practical training in the afternoon, with horticulture staff on hand to address any student queries.

This programme aims to ignite interest in agriculture, horticulture, and plant research among students

"Each participating student will receive a seed kit, macro bag, and biomix worth Rs 250 for their training. Students will apply their knowledge in their schools or homes –Official

Teachers' Protest: Class Boycott Looms as Holidays Pile Up

Teachers are now threatening a 'class boycott.' This warning comes just as a series of national and cultural holidays are approaching, along with the first-semester exams. As a result, the first semester of the current academic year in government primary schools across the state may end without proper lessons. Now, 1.30 lakh primary school teachers in the state are demanding re-designation and promotion as per eligibility. They have already staged protests and have warned of a class boycott if their demands are not met by August 12.

Protesting teachers have already submitted memoranda at the taluk and district levels. "If we don't get justice even after the protest, at Freedom Park, on August 12, boycotting classes will be inevitable," warned R Maruthesh, Vice President of the Karnataka State Primary School Teachers' Association. E Basavaraju, Secretary of the Karnataka Jnana-Vijnana Samiti, Bengaluru, added, "Teachers' demands should not be ignored. There are already enough holidays, and classes are not happening properly due to various reasons. If teachers boycott classes now, it will be difficult for children. The government should consider teachers' demands."

Spotlight on city's animal birth control programme

After complaints from citizens, Central dept writes to Bengaluru DC seeking indepth probe on allegations against one centre of being in violation of rules

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The Union Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department has shot off a letter to the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner to conduct an extensive investigation of all the animal birth control (ABC) centres to ascertain the current state of award of the contract to an organisation that is allegedly violating the ABC Rules, 2023.

The August 1 letter from Union Animal Husbandry Department Joint Commissioner Sujit Kumar Dutta is based on complaints from citizens of Bengaluru, regarding the ABC programme being run by the BBMP. The letter emphasises on the need to take appropriate action against the officials based on the findings of the inspection.

The letter stated that the citizens and animal activists have repeatedly urged for the blacklisting of ASRA, one of the organisations running three centres despite their alleged non-compliance with established norms. "Despite this ongoing complaint, ASRA continues to be engaged by BBMP, raising serious questions about the welfare of animals under their care and integrity of BBMP officials," the letter read.

The letter said it is pertinent to note that the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has recognised ASRA as an organisation working in the field of animal welfare only and thereafter, the BBMP assigned the ABC programme to ASRA through a formal tender process. "However, the AWBI received several complaints in regard to the ABC programme being conducted by the ASRA and other organisations. The AWBI, based on complaints, advised the BBMP to stop the ABC programme at the ASRA centre through its letter dated 19.03.2024 along with all the Centres. Despite this, BBMP continues to engage ASRA and carry out the ABC programme in violation of Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023," it read.

Animal lovers of Bengaluru have been stressing on the need to have a sound ABC programme in the city

Some animal activists appealed to the Deputy Commissioner to investigate the organisations as per the advice. "The inhumane treatment and unhygienic conditions animals endure under their care from capture to release are unacceptable. I urge the DC to take serious cognizance of the directive from AWBI and engage members to do unbiased investigation of these complaints," said Anil Raman, an animal welfare advocate.

Siddharth Patil, an animal lover, said he fully supports the proper implementation of programs recommended for the ABC by the AWBI. "The infrastructure and facilities provided for the workers and doctors are severely lacking in adhering to guidelines. The operation theatre, the holding cells for post-operative animals and living conditions of workers are squalid. The pickup and re-release of animals is also conducted inaccurately with a lot of street dogs getting released into areas that they were not picked up from ," said Patil.

Saroja Dileepan, a feeder and rescuer residing at Amarajyothi Layout, Domlur Extension, said it has been very frustrating because of the lack of action from the authorities. "It appears that only short-term solutions have been provided, without addressing the root cause of the problem. The basic requirement of proper ABC infrastructure in every zone is not there" Dileepan said.

> **"The infrastructure and facilities given to the workers and doctors are severely lacking in adhering to guidelines**
>
> –Siddharth Patil, animal lover

Radha Amarnath of ASRA, said ASRA has applied for renewal of recognition with AWBI on August 29, 2023. "The AWBI has inspected ASRA in April 2024. We received the mail stating that they approved for renewal. We are awaiting to get the certificate. The AWBI has done an inspection for project recognition and the inspection team has submitted their report but without renewal, we can't apply online for project recognition," said Amarnath.

Filming in loo: Cafe employee arrested

The Bengaluru Police have arrested a staffer of a coffee shop here for allegedly hiding a mobile phone in the dustbin of the women's restroom to record videos.

The incident was reported on Saturday from BEL Road in Bengaluru. The accused staffer had kept his mobile phone in the dustbin to record videos in the toilet.

Sharing details, one of the customers present at the coffee shop posted on social media that she was at the coffee shop in Bengaluru on Friday morning when a woman "found the phone in the restroom, hidden in the dustbin, with the video record on for about two hours, facing the toilet seat".

"It was on flight mode so that it makes no sound, and was carefully hidden in the dustbin bag which had a hole made in it so that only the camera is exposed. It was quickly found that the phone belonged to one of the men working there. The police were called and ... action being taken," she said.

"This was horrific to witness. I will be vigilant at any washroom I use from now on, no matter how well-known the chain of cafe or restaurant is. And I request all of you to do the same. This is absolutely disgusting," she wrote," the customer added.

Replying to the post, the coffee shop management said that the "safety and well-being of our customers is always our priority. The coffee shop has a stringent zero tolerance policy and the person under question at the BEL Road store has been immediately terminated, with necessary legal action being initiated".

Police after reaching the coffee shop verified the matter, arrested the accused employee and also seized his mobile phone.

According to police, the accused is a Bhadravathi resident who worked at the coffee shop for some time. A case has been registered against the accused and police are investigating whether the accused had made similar videos before.

—IANS

POCSO case against BSY: State govt aims to seek vacation of stay order

The Home Minister of Karnataka G Parameshwara, has announced that the state government has instructed the advocate-general to seek the vacation of a stay order issued by the High Court in a POCSO case against BJP veteran BS Yediyurappa. Parameshwara stated, "The advocate general along with our lawyers have been instructed to work towards the stay being vacated. Once it has been achieved, we will strive towards taking action in accordance with law. He (Yediyurappa) may fight the case legally in the future, we will also have to continue the fight legally."

The Karnataka High Court had previously granted an interim order preventing the CID from arresting Yediyurappa, who faces allegations of sexually assaulting a 17-year-old. The CID filed a charge-sheet against him on June 27.

Regarding the potential for Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot to sanction the prosecution of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in relation to a site allotment scam in Mysuru, Parameshwara indicated that the government is awaiting Raj Bhavan's subsequent actions. On July 26, Governor Gehlot issued a show-cause notice to Siddaramaiah in response to a petition seeking his sanction. The Cabinet, on August 1, requested the Governor to withdraw the notice.

Parameshwara pointed out that numerous cases involving prosecution sanction are pending in Raj Bhavan. He remarked, "In (Siddaramaiah's) case, the Governor has shown hurry. He must explain what the intention is, being the Constitutional head. There seems to be a conspiracy...it looks as if Raj Bhavan and the Governor are being misused." Expressing confidence that Gehlot will not permit Siddaramaiah's prosecution, Parameshwara said that in the case that the sanction is given, they will fight it legally.

Unconstitutional amendment

The Karnataka High Court has declared Section 128-A of the Karnataka Cooperative Societies (KCS) Act, 1959, which was inserted through an amendment in 2023, as unconstitutional. The amendment had empowered the registrar of cooperative societies to completely take away the right of a society to recruit, transfer, or hold disciplinary inquiries against their employees.

In his verdict delivered on August 8, Justice Anant Ramanath Hegde stated, "The right to form a cooperative society, which is a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(c) (right to form associations or unions or cooperative societies) of the Constitution, within its fold includes right to recruit, transfer the employees of a cooperative society and to initiate disciplinary action against its employees."

The judgment was passed while allowing petitions filed by Uppinangadi Cooperative Agricultural Society Ltd. in Dakshina Kannada district and 45 other similar societies, which had questioned the constitutional validity of the amended Section 128-A. The court acknowledged that the State has the authority to impose reasonable restrictions on the fundamental right to form a cooperative society, including matters related to recruitment, transfer, and disciplinary action against the employees of a cooperative society. However, the court clarified that the State cannot completely prohibit or take away the right of a cooperative society to recruit, transfer, and initiate disciplinary action on its employees.

> **HC had previously granted an interim order preventing the CID from arresting Yediyurappa**

—Rachana Ramesh

Bhattarahalli Lake: Tale of two departments

Water quality drops due to SWD Dept's neglect of silt, despite Lakes Dept's upkeep

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The issue at Bhattarahalli Lake illustrates a challenge within Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). While the BBMP Lakes Department rejuvenated the lake a few years ago, ensuring clean water for years, the quality is now deteriorating. This decline is due to the BBMP Storm Water Drain (SWD) Department's failure to clear accumulated silt in the stormwater drain near the lake.

Last year, residents and lake activists celebrated the lake's rejuvenation by planting around 1,000 saplings along the lake bund. Now, they are struggling to prevent sewage water from flowing into the lake. "The width of the stormwater drain is not more than four feet. I never come across such a small storm drain near a water body. Whenever it rains heavily, water enters into the lake due to the accumulated silt and narrowness of the stormwater drain," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

Manjunath Kumar, a lake activist, has urged BBMP authorities to address the issue promptly to prevent pollution of the lake, which was rejuvenated at significant expense. He reported that despite complaining to both BBMP Lakes and SWD engineers, no action has been taken to clean the stormwater drain or stop sewage from entering the lake. "Many residents visit the lake for a walk in the morning and evening. The stagnated dirty water in the stormwater drain has become a health hazard for the residents who visit the lake. Dirty water stagnates on the northern and southern sides of the lake," said Manjunath Kumar.

Condition of the storm water drain adjacent Bhattarahalli Lake

> **Many residents visit the lake for a walk in the morning and evening. The stagnated dirty water in stormwater drain has become a health hazard for residents**
> –Manjunath K, activist

Manoj Kumar Singh, a resident of Bhattarahalli, has urged BBMP authorities to keep the stormwater drain clear of dirty water and silt. He emphasised that the stagnant water poses health risks to the residents. "The BBMP authorities are advising residents to keep their surroundings clean and neat to prevent the spread of dengue. Who will tell the Storm Water Drain department engineers to keep the drains free from water stagnation and silt? The drain has become a breeding place for mosquitoes. I urge the authorities concerned to attend to this problem without any delay," said Manoj Kumar Singh.

Meanwhile, BBMP Executive Engineer (Lakes Department) Bhooprada has said that dirty water enters the lake due to the narrowness of the stormwater drain. "I have already informed the Executive Engineer and Assistant Executive Engineer of the SWD to do the needful," said Bhooprada.

The residents of Bhattarahalli are seeking relief from the bad odour and mosquitoes caused by stagnant dirty water in the stormwater drain. The situation remains uncertain as the BBMP authorities' response is awaited. The community will have to wait to see if effective measures will be taken.

Big changes at busy Graphite India Junction

Bengaluru's congested intersection gets major upgrades with new medians, concrete barriers, and road repairs, improving traffic flow and safety

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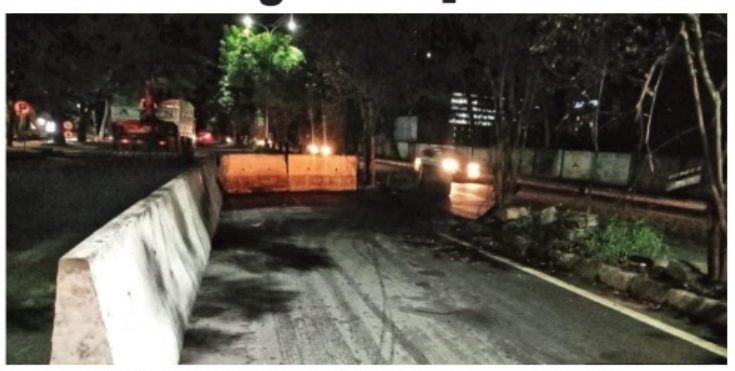


New concrete barriers installed at Graphite India Junction

The Graphite India Junction, one of the busiest and most congested intersections in the city, has undergone significant improvements as part of a larger initiative to develop 50 road junctions in Bengaluru. The changes aim to improve traffic flow, enhance safety, and transform the space for better usability.

This junction was notorious for its steep turn, which made it difficult for buses to navigate. Buses had to slow down significantly, leading to traffic jams and delays for commuters. Additionally, the broken medians in the area added to the chaos, making it hard for larger vehicles to turn safely. However, with the recent improvements, the medians have been repositioned to allow buses to turn more easily, especially for those travelling from EPIP towards Kundalahalli.

A few metres ahead of the junction, a U-turn spot had been a source of frequent traffic issues. The police had placed barricades to prevent cars, two-wheelers, and even tempo travellers from making unsafe U-turns. Despite this, many vehicles were still managing to remove the barricades and take turns, causing further disruptions and leading to wrong-way driving. To address this, concrete barricades have now been installed. These new barricades are more durable and have successfully slowed down traffic, making the area safer for all commuters.

Another significant improvement has been the repair of damaged road surfaces around the junction. Using cold mix asphalt, potholes and other road damages have been fixed, ensuring a smoother drive for all vehicles.

The successful completion of this project was a result of the strong coordination between various agencies. Volunteers from the Mahadevpura Task Force worked closely with the Bangalore Traffic Police, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahangara Palike (BBMP) Road Infrastructure Department, and the BBMP Traffic Engineering Cell to ensure that the improvements were carried out efficiently and effectively.

Clement Jayakumar, Secretary of the Mahadevpura Task Force, emphasised the collaborative effort that made these changes possible. "The coordination between task force volunteers, Bangalore Traffic Police, BBMP Road Infrastructure, and the BBMP Traffic Engineering Cell was crucial, and it was through this teamwork that we were able to achieve these improvements," he said.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

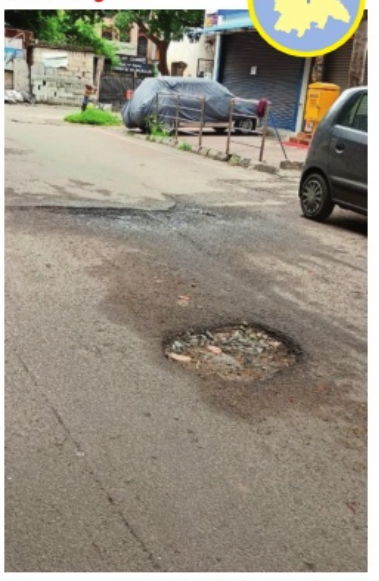
Mosquito menace
Banaswadi

The Banaswadi railway station road has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes due to piles of uncleared garbage. Immediate action is needed to address this issue.

Garbage issues
Sarakki

After the BM column report, the footpath from Sarakki Gate to JP Nagar Metro has been fixed. However, garbage dumping remains a problem. BBMP should install dustbins soon to solve this issue.

Pothole alert
BTM Layout



Numerous potholes in front of Samskruthi Oil, 7th Main Road, Mico Layout, BTM 2nd Stage, need immediate attention.

Forest dept to take back land from HMT

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Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre orders reclamation of 599 acres valued over Rs 10,000 crore due to legal violations

State Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has directed the forest officials to reclaim 599 acres of forest land worth more than Rs 10,000 crore from the Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT). The 599 acres of land situated at Peenya Dasarahalli was declared as the reserved forest under Section 9 of the Forest Act 1878.

The minister, in a note to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest Department on August 9, said that there is no provision to allocate forest land for other purposes. "Subsection 1 of Section 30 of the Forest Conservation Act prohibits the donation of forest land for other purposes. Bangalore Deputy Commissioner, Hanuman transferred the forest land as a gift to the HMT in 1963 but no gazette notification was issued to this effect. The process to transfer forest land is to de-notify the said land and issue a government order. However, the said forest land was not de-notified for non-forest purposes," the minister said.

He added that Supreme Court judgments on the de-notification of forest land for people affected by the Sharavathi Valley Hydroelectric Project and Godavarman Case have clarified the protection of forest land.

The minister, in the note, stated that HMT has been selling the forest land to government departments and private people. "Reclaim the vacant land (281 acres) immediately and take measures to recover the remaining land among 469 acres and 32 guntas of the forest land. The land under the HMT control and the land sold by the HMT to government departments and private people belong to the forest department. Recently, the Supreme Court has declared that once a forest is always a forest. The environment is more important than civil rights," the minister said.

He has also directed the Additional Chief Secretary to order an inquiry against the forest officials who failed to follow the instructions to recover the land under Section 64(A) of the Forest Preservation Act. "The HMT management did not file an appeal against the order issued under Section 64 A of Karnataka Forest Conservation Act 1980. So, the land sold by the HMT and the land under HMT's control is forest land," the minister said.

He said a few forest officers, without bringing to the notice of the state government, filed an interlocutory application (IA) in the Supreme Court in 2020 seeking permission to de-notify the forest land. He instructed the Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest Department to withdraw the interlocutory application immediately and investigate those responsible for its filing.

Missing in new norms for PGs: Fire safety

Whitefield residents, students not entirely satisfied with BBMP's new Paying Guest accommodation guidelines, point out deficiencies in enforcement

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Recently, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike issued guidelines for "Paying Guests" (PG) hostels. However, residents of Whitefield have expressed concerns that while the initiative is a step in the right direction, it falls short of addressing their needs. There is widespread dissatisfaction with the BBMP's regulation of the PG business, and residents feel that more comprehensive measures are required.

One of the primary concerns raised by the residents is the lack of mandatory fire safety measures. They are advocating for a Fire Safety No Objection Certificate (NOC) to be required for all buildings exceeding two or three floors.

"What about fire safety norms, which are very essential? BBMP has not mentioned that anywhere in their guidelines. A fire safety exit is very essential along with fire-fighting equipment," said Chandrasekhar, a concerned resident of Whitefield.

"What about fire safety norms, which are very essential? BBMP has not mentioned that anywhere in their guidelines. A fire safety exit is very essential along with fire-fighting equipment

— Chandrasekhar, resident

Residents also criticised a recent amendment by the Karnataka government that increased the height limit for high-rise buildings to above six floors. They believe this change was made under pressure from real estate interests and should be reversed. "A fire in one of these PG slums will ensure that the entire layout goes up in flames, as there is no gap between these buildings, nor any ventilation or light," a resident pointed out.

Another major concern is the illegal commercial activities that have sprung up in residential areas. Residents have demanded the immediate closure and sealing of all shops, establishments, PGs, and offices on streets narrower than 40 feet (as physically present, not just proposed in the Revised Master Plan), with penalties for the owners.

The lack of regulation enforcement in layout formation, building construction, and the operation of PGs has led to a significant decline in the quality of life in these residential areas. Residents fear that these layouts are quickly becoming "PG slums" and are becoming unsuitable for living.

Parking issues have also been a significant point of contention. Robert John, another resident, emphasised the need for PGs to have their own parking space for two-wheelers and four-wheelers. He also proposed that PGs be required to report their tenants' identities to the nearest police station and enforce mandatory parking.

The residents of Whitefield are urging the BBMP to take immediate action to address these concerns. They believe that without stricter regulations and enforcement, the safety and livability of their neighbourhood will continue to deteriorate.

Anjanapura rejects slum relocation

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The residents of Anjanapura BDA Layout are expressing serious concerns over the proposed relocation of slums to their area. The layout, which was developed by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) 25 years ago, continues to struggle with basic amenities, including the lack of a proper water supply. Residents rely on water tankers for their daily needs, as piped water is not yet available.

The situation changed when the Karnataka Slum Development Board decided to relocate slum dwellers from Kengeri and Shankarpally to Anjanapura, instead of the initially planned Uttarahalli and Gollahalli. Due to strong opposition from Gollahalli residents, the relocation site was moved to Kembathalli Village near NICE Road.

Residents strongly opposed this move. "It is unfair, and we should not allow this at any cost. The crime rate is already increasing, and with slum dwellers moving in, we don't want anything to go wrong," said a resident.

The Anjanapura Further Extension 9th, 10th and 11th Block Residents Welfare Association recently wrote a letter to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Bengaluru Urban, KA Dayanananda, expressing their concerns. The letter stated, "The slum is planned in the middle of Anjanapura's 10th and 11th blocks, next to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board water tank, which has high chances of contamination of water resources in the area. It will cause a severe adverse impact on the peace and security of the area."

Another resident voiced concerns, saying, "BDA has not planned any civic facilities like schools, gardens, or play areas for children. Tap water is not provided to residents yet, and this move by the slum board has created panic among all residents."

No Dengue vaccine in near future

Dengue vaccine under development and undergoing rigorous testing & several trials

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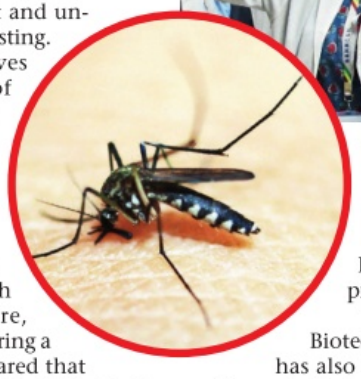
Junior doctors and BBMP health workers and nursing staff and school students take part at awareness rally on Dengue after Dengue cases rapidly spread in IT city

This year has seen a steep rise in Dengue cases as the cumulative cases in Karnataka this year has already surpassed 20 thousand, while Bengaluru is nearing 10,000 cases (9,524). With 10 Dengue deaths including three in Bengaluru reported this year, there is a growing demand for Dengue vaccine. However, one has to wait a little longer to get a vaccine to prevent Dengue. The Dengue vaccine is still under development and undergoing rigorous testing. The process involves multiple phases of trials, regulatory approvals, and compliance with strict standards to ensure its safety and effectiveness.



Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Prataprao Jadhav during a Lok Sabha reply, shared that the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has signed a five-year agreement with Panacea Biotec. This study, called "DengiAll," is a Phase III, multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to test the safety and effectiveness of a single dose of the Dengue Tetravalent Vaccine developed by Panacea Biotec Limited. Panacea Biotec had previously conducted earlier phases of clinical trials in India. The vaccine is a recombinant type developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the United States of America, and its technology has been shared with various companies worldwide. The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the Phase III trial protocol.

"Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has also approved a live attenuated tetravalent Dengue vaccine for Phase I trials under the National Biopharma Mission. Additionally, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has granted permission for four applicants to conduct clinical trials for Dengue vaccines. Approval to market these vaccines will depend on satisfactory results from chemical and pharmaceutical data, pre-clinical animal studies, and clinical trials, as outlined in the New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019, under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1940," the minister said. The extended timeline for vaccine availability reflects the thorough and cautious approach required for new vaccines.

Zika viral and KFD vaccine trials show promising results

Jadhav said, "Bharat Biotech Ltd has developed a purified inactivated Zika viral vaccine candidate, BBV121, which has successfully completed Phase 1 clinical trials. This stage of testing, which evaluates the vaccine's safety and preliminary efficacy, has shown promising results. Following this, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has granted permission to proceed with Phase IIa clinical trials. This next phase will involve a larger group of participants to further assess the vaccine's safety and effectiveness, marking an important step forward in the vaccine's development."

Parallelly, significant progress is being made in the development of a vaccine for Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD). "ICMR has partnered with Indian Immunological Ltd (IIL) through a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to advance the KFD vaccine. Necessary approvals from various committees, including the International Board of Specialty Certification (IBSC), Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC), and Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA), have been secured. Small-scale production of the vaccine candidate has been achieved for pre-clinical studies. Furthermore, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has highlighted that the Institute of Biotechnology Research & Innovation Council (iBRIC)-Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI) in Faridabad is actively involved in the research and development of the KFD vaccine," Jadhav added.

Not in my blood to feel threatened, says DKS

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday stated he was not threatened by the persistent 'threats and criticisms' by Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel, HD Kumaraswamy.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, he said, "I put up with HD Kumaraswamy's criticisms and threats for the last 2-3 years. But he lost it after his son's loss in the elections. He is threatening to release documents about me. Let him release them. I am not the one who is threatened."

Asked why 'personal verbal attacks' are increasing between him and the Union Minister, the Congress leader said, "HD Kumaraswamy is the one who started it. He is talking in desperation after his son lost the election. I showed restraint as I had worked with him when he was the CM in the coalition government. I treated him like an elder brother, but I can't take this anymore."

"I have not come to politics with the privilege of being the son of a former Prime Minister. I come from a middle-class farmer's family. My assets are an open book. HD Kumaraswamy can reveal any document he may have. Let him fire all the weapons he possesses. I haven't made any mistakes. I know whom all HD Kumaraswamy has complained to in Delhi. I know the conspiracies that are brewing," the Deputy Karnataka Chief Minister added.

He added that HD Kumaraswamy is a 'master of U-turns'. "He initially said I released his nephew Prajwal Revanna's pen drives but later said that former BJP MLA Preetham Gowda was responsible. He made so many allegations against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah before the elections, but now he is singing praise for them," Shivakumar said.

Union minister HD Kumaraswamy and BJP state unit president BY Vijayendra walked together wearing traditional Mandya attire including green shawl during the padayatra in Mandya on Wednesday

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Defaulter files

Amidst the controversy surrounding the alleged MUDA scam, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah defended himself by revealing his modest beginnings. Addressing a gathering, he shared, "Until recently, I didn't even own a home in Mysuru. I'm only building one now. Previously, I had to sell two of my properties to settle my debts. After receiving a notice from a cooperative bank, I had to part with my land. I never even lived in my own home. Back in 1983, I was campaigning while renting a room. I've been in politics for 45 years." His son, Yatheendra, also reflected on their humble past, reminiscing about traveling in government buses to college due to their lack of a car.

Other skills

During the recent Padayatra to Mysuru, some political leaders showcased their diverse talents. Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka, seizing the moment, borrowed a camera from a TV lensman and began filming the event, eager to demonstrate his videography skills. Meanwhile, Mulbagal MLA Samruddhi Manjunath took on a role as a part-time reporter, conducting an interview with his party's youth leader, Nikhil Kumaraswamy, to discuss his perspectives on the padayatra and political issues.

Hero narratives

Telugu actor-turned-politician and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan recently visited Vidhana Soudha, where he was met with a wave of fan excitement. Addressing the media, Kalyan shared that his visit was centered on discussing forest conservation, inspired by the classic Kannada film Gandhada Gudi featuring Dr Rajkumar. He reflected on how cinematic portrayals have shifted over the decades, noting that while films from 40 years ago depicted heroes protecting forests, modern films often feature characters involved in forest exploitation and smuggling. Although Kalyan did not explicitly name any film, netizens linked his comments to his relative Allu Arjun's role in the movie Pushpa, where the protagonist is depicted as a red sandalwood smuggler.

Pan trouble

Recently, officials from the Transport Department in Uttara Kannada issued a circular advising bikers in Sirsi town to exercise caution. Complaints have been received about bikers spitting pan while driving, which has been causing discomfort to other riders on the same road. This issue has led to several representations from the public. The circular warns that action will be taken according to police procedures if the behavior continues.

-Sridhar Vivan

Dam in distress: Water loss and flood threat

Alert issued for Tungabhadra Reservoir after gate 19 malfunction; repairs are underway

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Despite the rains having eased, a new flood alert has been issued for the Tungabhadra Reservoir in Hospet due to a malfunction of gate 19. The primary concern now is that to alleviate the pressure on the remaining gates, authorities must release water from the reservoir. This action presents two significant challenges: the valuable stored water will be discharged and exacerbate the flood risk in downstream areas.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar who also holds the Water Resources portfolio said, "We will try to fix this in the next four to five days. Experts have indicated that repairing the gate will necessitate releasing some water. We will proceed based on the findings from their report." Shivakumar noted that the Central Water Commission oversees gates 1 to 16 of the dam, while the Karnataka government manages gates 17 to 32. The Central Water Commission dispatched specialists, and Karnataka sent skilled engineers to the site. "I have been in constant contact with officials since Saturday night and I'm receiving updates every moment," he added.

> **"This is a critical situation. While we will consider farmers' suggestions, decisions will ultimately be guided by expert recommendations**
> –DK Shivakumar, Deputy CM

The Tungabhadra dam after the chain of a crust gate of the dam broke, leading to the release of water

The problem arose from the breakage of the chain link at the 19th gate of the Tungabhadra dam. In response to the high water flow, all gates have been opened to release water into the river, and residents in downstream areas and the riverbed have been advised to exercise caution. When questioned about potential water shortages in the near future, Shivakumar remarked, "This is a critical situation. While we will consider local and farmers' suggestions, decisions will ultimately be guided by expert recommendations. Ensuring the welfare of our farmers is our top priority."

Following this, the Andhra Pradesh government has issued a warning for residents in low-lying areas of the united Kurnool district due to a flood threat following the failure of a chain link on a crest gate at the Tungabhadra Reservoir in upstream Karnataka. Dam authorities had reduced water discharge on Saturday to account for reduced rainfall in the catchment area, lowering it by 28,000 cusecs to maintain the Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 1,633 feet. Following the damage to Crest Gate No. 19 at approximately 10:50 pm, all 33 crest gates were opened to alleviate pressure on the damaged gate, resulting in a discharge increase to 100,000 cusecs by Sunday morning. This increase aimed to lower the reservoir water level to facilitate repairs on the broken chain link.

'Farmers are my family'

After completing the 10-day Mysuru Chalo Padayatra on the MUDA scam, JDS leader and Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy participated with farmers in Mandya district to plant paddy saplings. The paddy saplings were planted in the paddy fields of the farmer Lakshman in Sithapur village of Pandavapura taluk in Mandya district.

HD Kumaraswamy said, "This is my family member's program. Farmers are my family and joining them for this year's cultivation is the happiest moment for me. We have planted saplings today by joining our farmers. Farmers are really happy about my involvement with them."

"HD Deve Gowda ji is from the farmer community, farming is in his blood. Last year because of the rainfall, our farming community had to suffer a lot. This year the farmers are happy because we have seen very good rain this year," he said.

Kumaraswamy expressed his displeasure for not receiving the Agriculture portfolio in the Union Cabinet.

"I expected that the Agriculture portfolio would be

given to me. Our Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan knows the problems of the farmers and he will do a better job. He has given full confidence to farming community that they will get all kinds of strength."

BM Finance Fundas

Consumer Connect Initiative

RBI to introduce UPI 'Delegated Payments'

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed introducing a "Delegated Payments" facility in UPI. According to the RBI Governor Monetary Policy Meeting Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies, "The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has a very large user base of 424 million individuals. There is, however, potential for further expansion of the user base. It is proposed to introduce "Delegated Payments" in UPI. "Delegated Payments" would allow an individual (primary user) to set a UPI transaction limit for another individual (secondary user) on the primary user's bank account. This product is expected to add to the reach and usage of digital payments across the country."

How this will benefit UPI users

"Allowing Delegated Payments can be a pivotal step in expanding the user base of UPI. Through this development, two family members can now use one bank account for making UPI payments. While we wait for more details, this initiative will further strengthen and enhance UPI payments, especially in rural areas, where financial literacy is less, and one bank account is used by one family. This mechanism will enhance user convenience by ensuring effective control through the usage limit authorisation feature. This will also empower consumer confidence with easy, safe, and hassle-free financial transactions," said Rahul Jain – CFO, of NTT DATA Payment Services India.

What is UPI?

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is an instant payment system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an RBI-regulated entity. UPI is built over the IMPS infrastructure and allows you to

instantly transfer money between any two parties' bank accounts. When you shop online, you can pay through UPI when you see UPI as a payment option. On clicking that, you will need to enter your Payment Address (eg - xyz@upi). Once entered, you will receive a collect request on your BHIM app. Enter your UPI-PIN here and your payment will be complete.

All payments are instant and 24/7, regardless of your bank's working hours. A customer needs to register with his/her Payment Service Provider (PSP) before remitting funds using UPI and linking his accounts. Note that registration of beneficiary is not required for transferring funds through UPI as the fund would be transferred based on Virtual ID/ Account+IFSC/Aadhaar Number. One can use more than one UPI application on the same mobile and link both the same as well as different accounts.

Does the beneficiary also have to register for UPI to receive funds?

In the case of a Virtual ID transaction, the beneficiary needs to have a Virtual ID and in turn, be registered with UPI but in the case of Account + IFSC or Aadhaar number, the beneficiary need not be registered for UPI. (Please check with your PSP about the services enabled on the App).

What are the different channels for transferring funds using UPI?

UPI supports various fund transfer channels, including sending or collecting money via a Virtual ID, using an account number with the IFSC code, and through an Aadhaar number.

Can I put a stop payment request for funds transferred by UPI?

No, once the payment is initiated, it cannot be stopped.

What is the limit of fund transfers using UPI?

For normal UPI the transaction limit is up to Rs 1 Lakh per transaction. For a few specific categories of transaction in UPI like Capital Markets, Collections, Insurance, and Foreign Inward Remittances the transaction limit is up to 2 lakh and for Initial Public Offering and Retail Direct Scheme, the limit is up to Rs 5 lakh per transaction.

–Sneha Kulkarni, ET Online

India conclude Olympics campaign with 6 medals

India's Paris Olympics campaign concluded as Reetika Hooda fell short in the wrestling quarterfinals, and golfers Aditi Ashok and Diksha Dagar finished out of medal contention.

A total of 117 Indian athletes participated across 16 sports at the Paris Games: archery, athletics, badminton, boxing, equestrian, golf, hockey, judo, rowing, sailing, shooting, swimming, wrestling, table tennis, and tennis.

India clinched six medals at the Paris Olympics, one silver and five bronze. Although hopes were high for a historic performance, the country fell just short of surpassing its previous best at the rescheduled Tokyo Olympics in 2021, when they secured seven medals (1 gold, 2 silver, and 4 bronze.) and ranked 48th.

Athletics led the way for India with a robust 29-member squad, while the country also fielded its largest-ever contingent of 21 shooters in the shooting events. Beyond the pursuit of medals, Indian athletes made history by setting new records at the Games along with some near misses on medals after finishing fourth in six events.

The major achievements: Pistol shooter Manu Bhaker became the first Indian woman to win a shooting medal at the Olympics. Moreover, she became the first Indian athlete in the post-Independence era to win multiple medals in a single edition of the Games.

Norman Pritchard, with silver in the men's 200m and men's 200m hurdles at Paris 1900, was the first athlete to win two medals at one Olympics for India.

Manu stormed into the final of the women's 10m air pistol, becoming the first Indian woman since Athens 2004 to qualify for the Olympic finals in shooting. The following day, she won the bronze in the same and created history by becoming the first Indian woman to win an Olympic shooting medal.

Later, Manu, partnering with Sarabjot Singh, became the first Indian shooting pair to win an Olympic medal in shooting. Overall, it was India's sixth Olympic medal in shooting. **IANS**

No shelter, just a bus stop

AECS Layout bus shelter

Tin Factory bus shelter

Benniganahalli bus shelter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

frequently blocked by people forced to sit there due to the lack of seating arrangement. A case in point is the AECS Layout bus stand. "This not only causes discomfort but also poses a safety hazard as it obstructs the passage of other passengers trying to navigate through the stand.

We have no choice but to sit in the aisle. There's nowhere else to sit, and standing for long periods is just too exhausting, especially for the elderly and those carrying heavy bags," said Shanta Kumari, a commuter.

The congestion at the bus stand is further worsened by the sheer volume of passengers who use this facility. With no clear space to sit or stand, people are left with no option but to occupy the aisles, creating bottlenecks that make movement difficult. This is particularly dangerous in emergency situations, where quick evacuation might be required.

"The Tin Factory bus stand is a crucial hub in Bengaluru's public transport network, yet it is woefully inadequate in meeting the needs of its users. The absence of a roof and proper seating facilities reflects a broader issue of urban planning neglect. Commuters are left to fend for themselves, enduring harsh weather conditions and overcrowded spaces, with little hope for improvement. It's not just uncomfortable; it's unsafe.

> **"The Tin Factory bus stand is a crucial hub in Bengaluru's public transport network, yet it is woefully inadequate in meeting the needs of its users**

During the monsoon, the entire area becomes slippery. People have slipped and fallen because there's no proper shelter or seating. It feels like the authorities don't care about our safety or comfort," said Navya Reddy, a college student.

Efforts to improve the conditions at the Tin Factory bus stand have been minimal, with little visible progress. Despite being a well-known problem, there has been no significant action taken by the BBMP to address the issues.

"The situation at the Tin Factory bus stand is a microcosm of the larger infrastructural challenges faced by Bengaluru. As the city continues to grow, its public amenities are struggling to keep pace, leaving citizens to bear the brunt of inadequate planning and maintenance. The neglect of such a crucial transit point raises serious questions about the priorities of the city's administrators. The lack of a roof, seating, and overall maintenance makes it a challenging and often dangerous place for commuters.

The voices of those who rely on this facility daily reflect a growing frustration with the city's failure to provide even the most basic amenities. It is high time that the authorities take notice and take action to rectify these issues, ensuring that public transport facilities are safe, comfortable, and accessible to all," Karthik Hebbar, a regular commuter, suggested.

No vets, basic facilities at elephant camps

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

management, condition of animals, and animal welfare. Each of the facilities managed to score average grades. The maximum grade is 3.5 out of five while the minimum grade is two out of five.

The committee found that there are only three veterinarians for six elephant camps across the state. "The vets do not even have surgical equipment. There is no stock of emergency medicines on site. The team could not see a refrigerator to store medicines.

Except for Bandipur elephant camp, there was no dedicated room for the vets that would act as a dispensary. There seems to be no annual budget allocated for health care, and all the vets appear to be working without any veterinary assistants," the three-member committee report read.

The report stated that the fact that the vet from Mysuru has to come to Bandipur to attend to the elephants at Rampura camp is a disadvantage in itself. "This is fine for normal routine inspections, but not in the case of an emergency. The quality of post-mortem examination reports is much to be desired.

This is primarily because PM investigations appear to stop with just gross observations, without taking the investigation into the next level of laboratory investigations. We could see some effort being made on this front at the Sakrebyle camp. Here, the death of an adult elephant (Naganna) due to EEHV (elephant herpesvirus) is a shocker to say the least. Herpesvirus is known to kill only young and juvenile elephants, while adults act as carriers.

None of the confiscated elephants were screened for infectious diseases like tuberculosis or EEHV before being taken to the forest camp and mixed with the camp elephants," it stated.

Where are the vets?

Coming down heavily on the state government for not implementing the committee's recommendations, Amruthesh, said that the forest department did not take measures to appoint veterinarians for the three elephant camps even four years after the committee submitted its report.

"Recently, the High Court took suo-motu cognizance of a newspaper report pertaining to the repeated incidents of elephant deaths. Most of the elephant camps across the state lack basic amenities including medicines," said Amruthesh.

As of now, elephant camps at Balle, Rampur, and Sakrebyle have veterinarians. "We have to look after one more elephant camp apart from the assigned elephant camp. It has become tough for us," said a veterinarian on the condition of anonymity.

Criticising the state forest department for the pathetic condition of elephant camps, Arun Prasad, an animal activist, said that officials who fail to provide basic amenities at the elephant camps are liable for punishment.

"The state forest department must recruit qualified veterinarians for all elephant camps," said Prasad.

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I Rishab Bhansali S/O, Sunil Bhansali R/o No 003 Ambience Platinum Apartment, K R Road Near Basavanagudi Police Station Basavangudi Bengaluru 560004 have changed my name to S Rishab Bhansali.

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HEALTH TIP: Exfoliating your skin removes dead skin cells that can clog pores

One of the many reasons honey is helpful to the body is that it possesses antimicrobial qualities

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TIES THAT BIND

How parents can promote positive sibling relationships

Sibling relationships are some of the longest-lasting relationships we have in our lives.

Half of Canadians and around 80 per cent of people worldwide have at least one sibling. Sibling relationships are unique from all other relationships because siblings often grow up together and share family history. Biological siblings even share genetics.

In childhood, children spend more time with their siblings than anyone else, including their parents. A longitudinal study found that the quality of sibling relationships in young adulthood was one of the strongest predictors of well-being at age 65.

Sibling relationships change as we grow. In early adulthood, maintaining the sibling relationship becomes a matter of choice, although most sibling relationships last a lifetime. In childhood, parents have important roles to play, setting the stage for life-long positive sibling relationships.

As developmental and clinical psychologists, we recognise the profound impact siblings can have on development, especially having personally experienced the benefits, and sometimes the frustrations, within our own sibling relationships.

Sibling relationships and child development

Not only is the sibling relationship unique, but it also serves an important role in a child's development.

Children with siblings tend to develop better relationships with their peers, engage in more creative play and have higher empathy and a better understanding of others' thoughts and feelings. They often develop social skills much earlier than children without siblings, which helps them form friendships when they start school.

Some studies have shown that positive sibling relationships also serve as a protective factor during difficult times, like high levels of life stress and marital conflict between parents.

It is not surprising that siblings can have a large impact on an individual's development. For example, children may adjust their personalities to avoid conflict and competition with their siblings. Additionally, just knowing they have a sibling can positively affect a child.

Sibling conflicts, rivalry

When we are kids, sibling relationships can be full of rivalry. In adolescence, sibling relationships tend to drift as we explore new relationships with peers and our own identity.

It is probably no surprise that a major topic in research on sibling relationships is conflict. Sibling conflict is quite common and, to some extent, can actually be good for children's development.

The sibling relationship offers a unique context for children to resolve conflict because, unlike friendships, the sibling relationship cannot just end after a quarrel.

Through navigating conflict with siblings, children can learn valuable skills such as understanding others' perspectives, developing empathy, improving listening skills, setting boundaries and standing up for their own self interests.

However, there is a fine line between small disagreements and conflict being the main feature of the sibling relationship. It is normal for siblings to feel rivalry and competition, but when this becomes the defining feature of the relationship, it can create a negative environment. Specifically, children can become jealous and start to resent their sibling when they feel the need to compete for their parents' attention and approval.

How parents can navigate sibling conflict

Although most parents say they don't play favourites among siblings, up to 85 per cent of children believe their parents had a favourite.

One of the biggest predictors of sibling conflict is differential treatment by parents — including perceived differences in parenting. This means that even if a parent believes they are treating all children equally, a child often feels they are being treated differently.

For example, if both children are running through the house on separate occasions and one child receives a time out while the other is not allowed to go to a friend's birthday party, the second child may perceive this as unfair, and naturally it creates tension in the sibling relationship. Parents should strive to be as fair as possible in their parenting by ensuring consistent consequences for similar misbehaviours among siblings.

Another key factor is for parents to recognise the individual strengths of each child and avoid unhealthy competition between siblings. For example, if one child does well in math, and the other does well in science, recognise their individual abilities and accomplishments and avoid comparing one sibling's strength with the other's weakness.

Promoting positive sibling relationships

There are science-backed ways parents can promote positive sibling relationships.

Encourage positive engagement: Choose activities and interests that all siblings can enjoy together.

Identify what's going well: Recognise when siblings support, co-operate and help each other.

Engage in shared experiences: Highlight each sibling's unique strengths during activities that require teamwork.

Regulate emotions: Help children identify and process their emotions during difficult times.

Facilitate social and emotional understanding: Teach children about how to share their own feelings and understand and respect feelings of siblings.

Manage undesirable behaviours: Address negative behaviours like bossiness towards siblings.

Help children learn to consider the actions of their siblings, without assuming these actions are directed at them: It is important for children to understand that accidents happen and their siblings often do not have malicious intent toward them. For example, a parent might see a sibling accidentally knock over the toy tower.

Manage conflict: Parents can mediate conflict between children to help resolve situations fairly.

Examine parental differential treatment: Talk with children about instances when they feel they are being treated unfairly. Ask them to explain why they think something is "not fair" and discuss it together.

By implementing these strategies, parents can help build strong, positive and supporting relationships between siblings, which can support their well-being throughout their lifetimes.

(By Marissa Nivison & Sheri Madigan, University of Calgary, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Protein for kidney health

Helps those with CKD
Following a diet rich in proteins may help lower the risk of death among people with chronic kidney disease (CKD), claims a study.
About 850 million people worldwide are estimated to have kidney disease, and most live in low-income and lower-middle-income countries.

Study
The study led by researchers from Karolinska Institutet and Stockholm University in Sweden showed that the benefits of proteins may outweigh the downsides in older adults with mild or moderate CKD, in whom disease progression may play a more limited role in survival.
For the study, the team included 8,543 community-dwelling adults 60 years and older between March 2001 and June 2017. They were followed up for mortality from December 2021 to January 2024.

Higher intake
The results, published in the journal JAMA Network Open, revealed "that a higher intake of total, animal, and plant protein was associated with lower mortality in adults 60 years and older with mild or moderate CKD".
Importantly, the associations were larger among participants without CKD, the team said.

Benefits
The researchers explained that protein supplementation appears to reduce the risk of death in older persons, possibly by elevating branched-chain amino acid levels. A higher protein intake can boost muscle mass and strength, slower rate of bone loss, higher bone mineral density, lower risk of frailty, and improved cardiovascular function and recovery from illness (including wound healing), said the researchers. On the other hand, older adults with protein deficiency are at risk of "impairments of muscular, skeletal, and immune function", they said. —IANS

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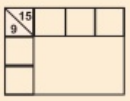
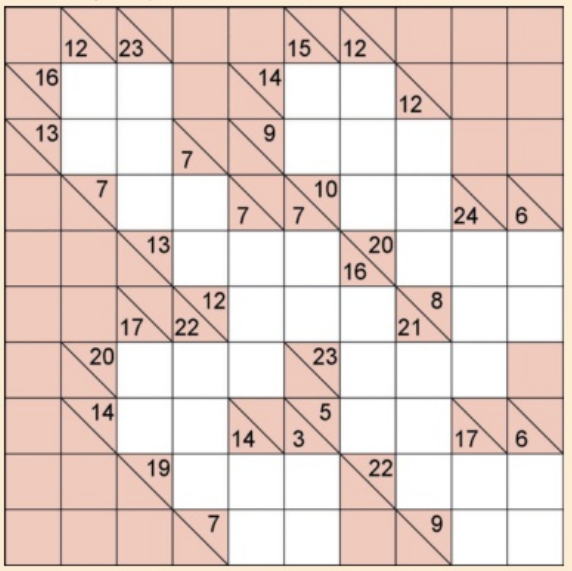
[((5^X) + (5^X) + (5^X) + (5^X)) / 4] = 125
X = ?

Kakuro

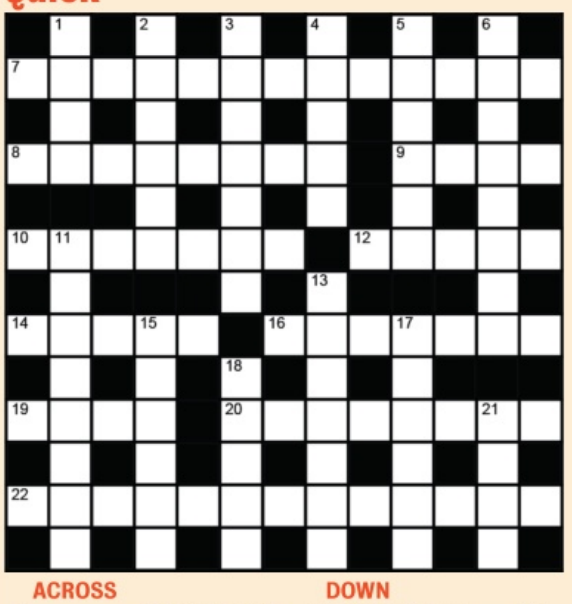
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 ___ ___ ___ to : encouraged or resulted in, led to? (6,3,4)
8 Catching game or fish illegally (8)
9 Mountain range (4)
10 Musical instrument (7)
12 Brownish colour (5)
14 Upright (7)
16 Yelled (7)
19 Obscene talk (4)
20 John ____ : 1967 tennis champion from Australia (8)
22 A fairy tale beginning ? (4,4,1,4)

DOWN

1 Furry dog Lhasa ____ (4)
2 Dramatizes or performs (6)
3 Counselor or one giving guidance to another? (7)
4 Hoodlums or bullies? (5)
5 Entreat earnestly (6)
6 Genuine or real (4,4)
11 Bitterness; ill feeling (8)
13 Masticating (7)
15 Small fast sailing ship (6)
17 Former German vessels (1-5)
18 Shoot from cover (5)
21 Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike in short (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS C

PO VBC UBH'F DPQL RB-JLFEPHS, TEGHSL PF. PO VBC TGH'F TEGHSL PF, TEGHSL VBCN GFFPFCUL.

Linemaro

I'm ugly, you're ugly, it's perfect

Mindchow

The best things in life are not things, but people who make you feel loved and cared for

Joke of the day

"Be strong," I whispered to my wifi signal

Loop

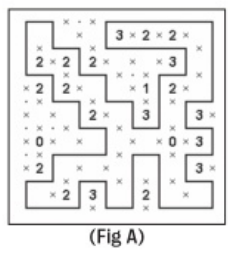
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

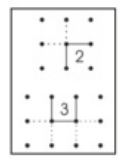
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

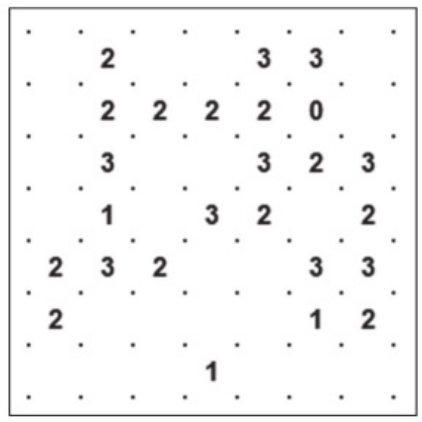
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



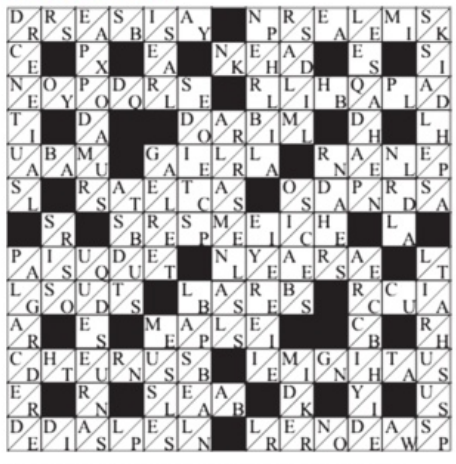
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8		G		
9				

ACROSS

1 Mis Co; 6 Least; 7 Ate in; 8 Gains; 9 Ale to

DOWN

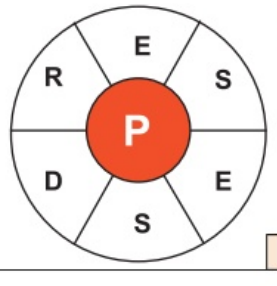
1 Iotas; 2 Tints; 3 Among; 4 Leal I; 5 As EEC

Mensapuzzle

Here's an alphametic that uses only six numbers. Zero and 4 are two of the numbers not used.

REAP
REAP
+REAP
HEAPS

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3	6		9				1	8
7	9		1		4	5		
		4			3			2
9						8	5	
4			6		5			7
	2	3						1
1			3			7		
		8	4		7		2	9
2	5				9		6	4

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 1
1 2 7 7

Medium = 6
3 6 6 9

Hard = 12
4 5 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Door is closed. 2. Mouth is closed. 3. Border is added around window. 4. Shirt sleeve is shorter. 5. Handle is missing from laundry basket. 6. Leg is moved.

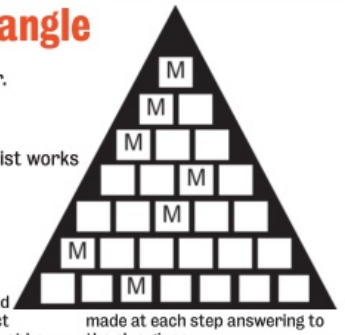
Riddler

The following are clues to words that start with "EX-", but the clues do not refer to the words themselves. They refer to the two words formed when the word is split after the word "EX". For example, "Ships don't dock there any more" would result in the word "EXPORT (EX PORT)". Can you get all four words?

1. Money that isn't worth anything any more.
2. It's not boring any more.
3. It's not used to sleep in any more.
4. It's no longer at the end of the line.

Alpha triangle

1 Meter, abbr.
2 Manuscript, abbr.
3 Apr. and Aug.
4 Not all
5 Large books
6 Some impressionist works
7 Stirs up

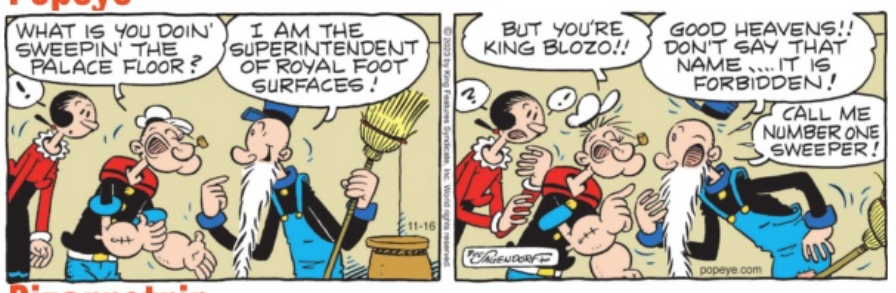


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

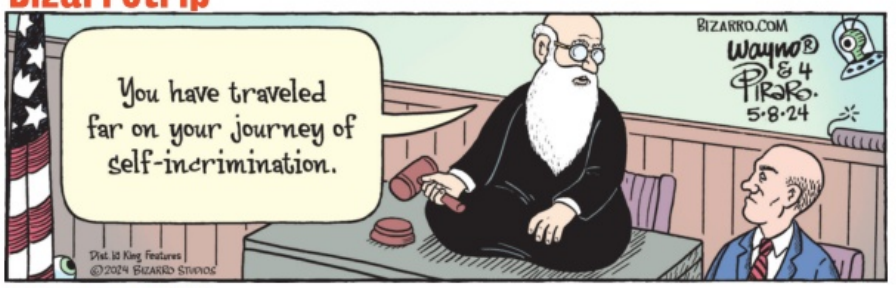
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


WHAT IS YOU DOIN' SWEEPIN' THE PALACE FLOOR?
I AM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF ROYAL FOOT SURFACES!
BUT YOU'RE KING BLOZO!!
GOOD HEAVENS!! DON'T SAY THAT NAME....IT IS FORBIDDEN!
CALL ME NUMBER ONE SWEEPER!
popeye.com

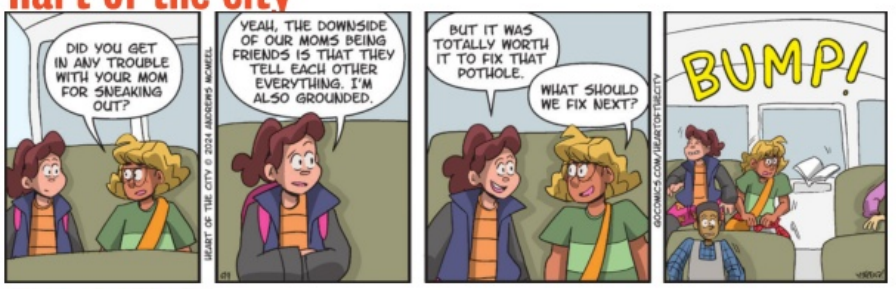
Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

MY CAR BATTERY DIED LAST NIGHT!
LUCKY FOR ME, MY DATE HAD CABLES!
JUMPER?
GET YOUR MIND OUT OF THE GUTTER!
©2019 creators.com 5/8
www.creators.com

Hart of the city


DID YOU GET IN ANY TROUBLE WITH YOUR MOM FOR SNEAKING OUT?
YEAH, THE DOWNSIDE OF OUR MOMS BEING FRIENDS IS THAT THEY TELL EACH OTHER EVERYTHING. I'M ALSO GROUNDED.
BUT IT WAS TOTALLY WORTH IT TO FIX THAT POTHOLE.
WHAT SHOULD WE FIX NEXT?
BUMP!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@OCHICA.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

WHEN THE CHOIR PERFORMED CLAUDE BARLOW'S 'JAZZ MESSIAH' HERE WITH MY JAZZ BAND, IT WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED...
AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO SING WITH THEM SOME MORE.
OH, I DON'T THINK I COULD...
IT'S A PAYING GIG...
ALTHOUGH, I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T HURT ME TO STRETCH SOME...
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tombatiuk.com/books
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be blessed by the moon. After a sound sleep, you may feel healthy and you may enjoy every moment. Moon will make you confident, which may reflect in your way of working. Old health issues may be resolved now. You may likely help a needy person, which may increase your respect around you.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel unhappiness. You may feel dull and unhealthy and it may affect your way of working. There might be delays in completing your current projects. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Love birds may experience a breakup.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may likely get big orders, which may increase your business. With the help of an influential person, you may likely get benefits at work. You may also expect promotions. Job seekers may get a suitable job. You may likely plan to renovate your house or office, which will enhance your status. You may enjoy your romantic moments with your loved one.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be busy at work, and the overload of work may make you tired mentally. You may not be able to enjoy family events or you may arrive very late, which can affect your domestic harmony. Your efficiency may be praised by your seniors, which may lead towards promotion in the current job.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by elders. The last few days' crunch may be resolved now. Your stopped projects may likely start automatically. Money which was stuck may likely be recovered. You may also plan for a religious trip with family members, which may increase your inner strength. You may get a chance for overseas trips or long-distance travel.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be affected by a negative moon, which may make you upset and arrogant. You may be ready for sudden and unexpected changes in today's routine. Your profits may be converted into losses, so it is advised to postpone making investments for a few days. You may be in the self-exploration stage, which may lead you towards the reality of life.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you are blessed by the moon. Money which was stuck may be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in your business. You may be in a leading position in your office in terms of projects. You may likely get incentives in terms of promotions. Bonding with the spouse may likely be improved, which may create domestic harmony.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your communication skills may help you resolve many problems. You may also plan for an advanced course to enhance your skills, which may be beneficial for your career shortly. Love birds may enjoy their romantic moments. You may be able to control your opponents and rivals. You may also plan for a house or vehicle loan.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be busy with your kid's education. You may likely travel for a kid's education. You may also plan for a change in your current job, you may also plan for higher education to enhance your career. You may also hear some good news in terms of competitive examinations. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may likely have a change in your place or position. You are advised to read any document carefully before signature. You are advised to be careful in terms of your parent's health. Investments in risky assets may lead to losses, so it is suggested to postpone investing for some days.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you are blessed by the moon. You may be energetic, you may make fast decisions in terms of your business. Your subordinates may help you to complete your project on time, which may increase trust in the environment. Disputes with the siblings may be resolved now. Natives who are in jobs may get some incentives in terms of promotions.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you might need to temper your straightforwardness, as it could impact your relationships with those around you. You may plan to renovate your house, you may also spend on buying some artefacts for your home. You may likely enjoy a social event, which may increase your network. You may also invest some capital in your family business.

KIDZONE

S Dhanush, 15 Years, Indira Nagar Cambridge School

L Nagaveni, 15 Years, Indira Nagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
4(5ˆX)/4=125
5ˆX=5ˆ3
X=3

BULL'S EYE
deep, DEPRESS, peer, press, PRESSED, seep, sped, speed, spree

FAST FIVE

A	T	O	L	E
I	N	G	A	S
T	I	N	E	A
S	T	A	L	E
O	S	M	I	C

RIDDLER
1. Extender or
Exchange,
2. Explain,
3. Extent,
4. Extermination

STRIKE OUT

D	I	S	P	E	L	R	E	N	E	W	S			
E	N	L	E	A	K	I		U						
C	H	E	R	U	B	E	I	G	H	T	S			
A	E	M	A	L	I		C		R					
L	O	U	T	B	A	R	B	R	C	A				
P	I	Q	U	E	N	Y	A	S	A	T				
R	B	E	S	E	C	H	A		A					
L	S	A	L	T	S	S	A	N	D	S				
A	B	U	G	I	R	L	R	E	N	E				
T	D	A	I	L	D	L								
N	O	O	D	L	E	R	I	B	A	L	D			
E	X	A	K	E	A	E	I							
D	R	E	S	S	Y	P	S	A	L	M	S			

QUICK

A	E		A	T		A	B							
O	P	E	N	E	D	T	H	E	D	O	O	R		
S		A		V		U		J		N				
P	O	A	C	H	I	N	G		U	R	A	L		
	S		S		S		R		F					
B	A	S	S	O	O	N		S	E	P	I	A		
		C		R		C				D				
E	R	E	C	T		S	H	O	U	T	E	D		
	I		U		S		E		B					
S	M	U	T		N	E	W	C	O	M	B	E		
A		E		M	A	L	I		C		R			
L	O	U	T		B	A	R	B	R	C	A			
P	I	Q	U	E		N	Y	A	S	A	T			
R		B	E	S	E	C	H	A		A				
L	S	A	L	T	S		S	A	N	D	S			
A	B	U		G	I	R	L		R	E	N	E		
T		D	A	I	L		D		L					
N	O	O	D	L	E		R	I	B	A	L	D		
E	X	A		K	E	A		E		I				
D	R	E	S	S	Y		P	S	A	L	M	S		

SUDOKU

3	6	5	9	7	2	4	1	8
7	9	2	1	8	4	5	3	6
8	1	4	5	6	3	9	7	2
9	7	6	2	4	1	8	5	3
4	8	1	6	3	5	2	9	7
5	2	3	7	9	8	6	4	1
1	4	9	3	2	6	7	8	5
6	3	8	4	5	7	1	2	9
2	5	7	8	1	9	3	6	4

MENSA PUZZLE
8571
8571
+8571

25713

QUOTE UNCODE
If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 7 – 1 + 7 = 1
Medium
9 – 6 / 3 x 6 = 6
Hard
4 – 5 + 8 + 5 = 12

ALPHA TRIANGLE
M, Mi, Mos, Some, Tomes, Monets, Foments.

LOOP

KAKURO

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How they met — Channing Tatum and Zoe Kravitz are now engaged and releasing 'Blink Twice', the film she directed and starred in. However, the two had never met until Kravitz sent Tatum the script, which she also co-wrote, reports suggest

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Comeback film

Veteran director S Mahendar is making a comeback after a gap of two years with Operation Kembudikki in which multi-talented actor Kishore will be playing the lead. Anup Hanumanthegowda, known for bankrolling the super hit Shivaji Surathkal, is producing Operation Kembudikki under the Silver Screen Studios banner. This will be the third movie for him as a producer.

Mahendar is known for movies such as Kaurava, Gattimela, Shrungara Kavya and Pampa Panchalli Parashivamurthy. His latest film has music by KGF fame Ravi Basrur and cinematography by Karunakar. Deepu S Kumar is the editor. Prominent actors from Sandalwood are expected to act in the movie.

Hanumanthegowda told BM the movie is expected to go on floors shortly. "Kembudikki is a remote villages on the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border and is known as one of the villages where HD Kumaraswamy stayed as part of his signature village stay programme. The village is still backward as far as the basic amenities are concerned," said Hanumanthegowda.

He said he agreed to bankroll it because of the script written by Mahendar. "The tribal village – Kembudikki – is also known for black magic. The movie revolves around the village and traditions and customs of tribals. We are in the process of selecting the remaining cast and crew for the movie," the producer said.

For a song

Adhira Santhu, who was supposed to debut as a director in Sandalwood for Real Star Upendra's 50th movie Adhira, has come out with a Kannada song video– Oy Yeah Ladki. The title of the album is different and its quality is on par with Hindi albums. Thuppada Hudugi Ragini Dwivedi launched the album at Renukamba Preview Theater on Friday. Ugram Ravi plays the villain in the song video while Amrutha plays an NRI and Sameer Nagarad plays a delivery boy in the album.

Ragini Dwivedi said Adhira Santhu has known her for a quite long time. "The album has come out well. Its quality showcases Santhu's vision. It was shot at beautiful locations. I am interested to work with Santhu in future," said Ragini.

A lyrical video and its remix

version were screened along with the album on the occasion. Santhu has written the lyrics and also sung the song. The album is released through Akash Audio. MS Thyaragaj has scored its music while S Halesh worked as the cinematographer.

The album revolves around a delivery boy who meets the villain and comes across the woman sitting in the villain's car.

Taapsee's favourite shift

Actress Taapsee Pannu, who is receiving a lot of positive response to her work in the recently released streaming movie 'Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba', has made a sarcastic remark on her favourite shooting shift.

The actress recently took to the Stories section of her Instagram and re-shared a picture from the director of the film, Jayprad Desai. The director had tagged Taapsee in the BTS picture from the film's shoot, and wrote, "Never ending nights". Taapsee, who is not much in favour of night shifts, shared the image and wrote, "Hahahaha my favourite shooting shift". The actress, who is a morning person, has said in the past that she likes to do her work during the day and hit the bed by 11:00 pm. She likes to wake up early, and likes early morning shifts. Talking about 'Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba', Taapsee reprises her role as Rani Kashyap in the pulpy thriller film. It is a sequel to the 2021 streaming movie 'Haseen Dillruba' which also starred Vikrant Massey and Harshvardhan Rane. 'Haseen Dillruba', written by Kanika Dhillon, was inspired by Roald Dahl's 'Lamb to the Slaughter'. 'Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillruba' picks up from where the 1st part ended.

—IANS

Malaika addresses all the unwanted attention she gets over her age

Malaika Arora, a name synonymous with grace and glamour, recently addressed the attention surrounding her age, a topic that has sparked both admiration and scrutiny.

In an interview with Harper's Bazaar, the actress reacted to her earlier viral statement from her show Moving in with Malaika, where she boldly stated, 'People are obsessed with my age. Not because I am old. But because I look like this while I am aging.'

Malaika Arora sees comments about her age as compliments rather than criticism. She feels great when people say she looks fantastic at 48 and believes such remarks are positive. She attributes her youthful appearance to her commitment to fitness and wellness, highlighting that her efforts are paying off.

As a well-known fitness enthusiast, Malaika is often asked about her secret to looking so fit at 48. She shared that while she is meticulous about maintaining her health, she is also realistic about the natural changes that come with age. Like many women, she experiences cellulite, stretch marks, weight fluctuations, and hormonal issues.

Yet, she balances indulgence with wellness, focusing on doing her best every day.

Malaika also touched upon the impact of negative comments on social media, admitting that nasty remarks can sometimes affect her mood. However, she is learning to block out the noise and stay focused on her well-being.

Despite being a regular at glamorous parties, Malaika values her rest, often choosing a good night's sleep over late-night events. She confidently states that she has no regrets about prioritizing her health and well-being.

—ETimes

Age is a stunning number

For mamma

Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty has thrown a lavish birthday bash for her mother Sunanda, as the latter turned 75 recently. Taking to Instagram, Shilpa, who has 32.3 million followers, shared some videos on the Stories section from the birthday party.

In the videos, we can see Sunanda wearing a floral pink coloured saree, pairing it with a matching blouse. She has rounded off her look with a diamond and pearl necklace, her signature big bindi, and a gajra on her bun.Shilpa wore an off-shoulder blue-coloured ankle-length dress and paired it with black pointed heels. In the video, her younger sister and actress Shamita Shetty, Shilpa's husband Raj Kundra and their two kids can also be seen. The decoration shows 'Mamma Mia 75th' written on a banner and a yummy huge cake.

Shilpa had married businessman Raj Kundra in November 2009. The couple has two children -- son Viaan, and daughter Samisha. On the work front, Shilpa had made her acting debut with the 1993 thriller movie 'Baazigar'.

—ETimes